

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

- 1           1.       A method for evaluating supplier performance, comprising:  
2           receiving a first evaluation of the supplier submitted electronically by a team  
3           member of a customer of the supplier;  
4           receiving a second evaluation of the supplier submitted electronically by a  
5           team leader of the customer;  
6           receiving a third evaluation of the supplier submitted electronically by the  
7           supplier; and  
8           generating an indicia of a supplier's performance based on the first, second  
9           and third evaluation.
- 1           2.       The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:  
2           generating and providing a report representing the indicia of the supplier's  
3           performance.
- 1           3.       The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:  
2           providing access for the supplier to view electronically the indicia of the  
3           supplier's performance.
- 1           4.       The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:  
2           providing access for the supplier to view electronically an indicia of the  
3           performance of all suppliers of a class of components.
- 1           5.       The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:  
2           communicating an indicia of the performance of the supplier to members of a  
3           manufacturing organization.
- 1           6.       The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:  
2           analyzing the performance of a supplier based on the performance of the best  
3           supplier in the class of suppliers.
- 1           7.       The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

2 analyzing the performance of a supplier based on improvements required by a  
3 manufacturer.

1 8. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:  
2 agreeing to future performance targets.

1 9. A system for evaluating a supplier, comprising;  
2 a computer system, the computer system including a computer program  
3 product encoded in computer readable media, the computer program  
4 operable to:  
5 receive a first evaluation of a supplier submitted by a team  
6 member of a customer of the supplier;  
7 receive a second evaluation of the supplier submitted by a team  
8 leader of the customer;  
9 receive a third evaluation of the supplier submitted by the  
10 supplier; and  
11 generate an indicia of the supplier's performance based on the  
12 first, second and third evaluation.

1 10. The system as recited in claim 9, wherein the computer system is  
2 configured to communicate over a network and to receive evaluations  
3 submitted from a second computer system across the network.

1 11. The system as recited in claim 10, wherein the network is a public  
2 global communication network.

1 12. A method for evaluating supplier performance, comprising:  
2 receiving a first evaluation of the supplier submitted electronically by a team  
3 member of a customer of the supplier;  
4 receiving a second evaluation of the supplier submitted electronically by a  
5 team leader of a customer of the supplier; and  
6 generating an indicia of the supplier's performance based upon the first and  
7 second evaluation.

1           13.    The method as recited in claim 12, further comprising:  
2           generating and providing a report representing the indicia of the supplier's  
3           performance.

1           14.    A computer program product encoded in computer readable media, the  
2           computer program product comprising:  
3           instructions, executable on a computer system, configured to:  
4                 receive a first evaluation of a supplier submitted electronically by a  
5                 team member of a customer of the vendor;  
6                 receive a second evaluation of a supplier submitted electronically by a  
7                 team leader of the customer;  
8                 receive a third evaluation of the vendor submitted electronically by the  
9                 vendor; and  
10            generate an indicia of the vendor's performance based upon the first,  
11            second and third evaluations.

1           15.    A system for evaluating a supplier, comprising:  
2           a computer system, the computer system including a data storage device, the  
3           data storage device storing data for a supplier performance among  
4           suppliers supplying a class of components, comprising:  
5                 data representing quality of components supplied by each  
6                 supplier;  
7                 data representing cost of components supplied by each supplier;  
8                 data representing availability of the components from each  
9                 supplier;  
10            data representing service performance of each supplier; and  
11            data representing a top performing vendor among the suppliers  
12            supplying the class of components.

1           16.    The system as recited in claim 15, further comprising:

2 a server, wherein the computer system and the server are configured to  
3 communicate over a network and receive evaluations submitted from a  
4 second computer system across the network.

1 17. A method of evaluating the performance of a supplier, the performance  
2 of the supplier determined from at least one of a group, comprising:  
3 determining a best supplier in the class of suppliers, wherein the class of  
4 suppliers are those suppliers supplying a component to a manufacturer.

1 18. The method as recited in claim 17, further comprising:  
2 determining an indicia of quality of a component supplied by the supplier to  
3 the manufacturer.

1 19. The method as recited in claim 17, further comprising:  
2 determining a cost of a component provider by a supplier.

1 20. The method as recited in claim 17, further comprising:  
2 determining an indicia of availability of components supplied by a supplier.

1 21. A method of evaluating the performance of a supplier, the performance  
2 of the supplier determined from at least one of a group consisting of:  
3 receiving a first evaluation of the supplier submitted electronically by a team  
4 member of a customer of the supplier;  
5 receiving a second evaluation of the supplier submitted electronically by a  
6 team leader of the customer; and  
7 generating an indicia of a supplier's performance based on the first and second  
8 evaluation.

1 22. The method as recited in claim 21, further comprising:  
2 communicating an indicia of the performance of the supplier to members of a  
3 manufacturing organization.